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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

REPORT

CD NO.

COUNTRY

East Germany

DATE DISTR.

SUBJECT

Plans for Neues Deutschland

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THIS IS UNEVALUATED INFORMATION

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1. The reshuffle of the editorial staff of the "Neues Deutschland" newspaper was ~~was~~ resolved upon during the Leipzig Spring Fair. Mikoyan and leading Soviet party functionaries and journalists were said to have displayed much interest in the circulation of the newspaper and its influence. The information which they received in Leipzig must have been very disappointing. As a consequence, the SED Central Committee ordered a reshuffle of the editorial staff of "Neues Deutschland". The ablest editors were transferred to the editorial staff of this newspaper. It is their mission to produce a readable, interesting, and up-to-date newspaper. In connection with this efforts the circulation of the newspaper is to be increased from an estimated 400,000 to about 800,000 copies.
2. In connection with this reshuffle of the editorial staff of "Neues Deutschland", Georg Stibi was made editor-in-chief. Stibi previously worked in Gerhart Eisler's "Amt fuer Information" (propaganda office). The new editorial staff of the newspaper includes: Dr. Guenther Kertzscher, Georg Hansen, Georg Krauss, Karl-Heinz Hagen, and Gerhard Kegel. Dietmar Behschuh, Alfred Duerr, Walter Stillmann, Franz Baber, Margot Pfannstiel, Hans Ahrends, and Anneliese Fenner have been made assistant editors. It was not yet known if Hermann Leupold will be made manager of the publishing firm. It was also planned to form a special editorial staff for a West German issue of the newspaper. This issue was to be published immediately after the holding/free all-German elections had been resolved upon at the future four-power conference.

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CLASSIFICATION

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